



Ernie Fletcher  
Governor

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Mark D. Birdwhistell  
Secretary

Re: DSH Poverty Guidelines 2006

March 10, 2006  
DSH Provider Letter # A-218

Dear Provider:

The enclosed application for Disproportionate Share Hospital Program (DSH-001) is to be used by DSH hospitals to screen for Medicaid and KCHIP eligibility and to determine eligibility for funding under the DSH program. This updated application includes the federal poverty guidelines that go into effect on April 01, 2006. Completed applications are to be retained by the hospitals with the patient records.

An individual is to be screened for Medicaid eligibility prior to making a determination of eligibility for DSH funding. If an individual meets the criteria to be referred for Medicaid, you may not submit their data for DSH funding. Only after an individual has applied and been denied Medicaid may you make a determination of eligibility for DSH funds. All referrals for Medicaid are to be made to the local Department for Community Based Services (DCBS).

If an individual does not meet the screening criteria to be referred for Medicaid, use the application to determine eligibility for DSH funds without referring to DCBS.

For inpatient services, the number of indigent inpatient days and the associated charges need to be submitted to the Department for Medicaid Services. For outpatient services, only the charges for indigent care need be submitted. From this data, the Department will calculate your proportionate share of available DSH funds.

After the screening process is completed, if the individual is aged nineteen (19) or over and appears eligible for Medicaid or KCHIP, please refer the individual to the DCBS office in the county of the individual's residence to apply for Medicaid.

Sincerely,

Shannon R. Turner, J.D.  
Commissioner

SRT/BAI/DB/ak